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Though the School of Public Health at Harvard will have its headquarters in a well-equipped building of its own and have its own separate faculty and administration, it will be developed in close relation with other divisions of the university, especially the Medical School.

The administration buildings of the two schools will, it is hoped, stand side by side on the same grounds; certain heads of departments will be members of both faculties; and a number of laboratories and lecture rooms will be used in common.

The school will be able to cooperate with a large number of laboratories, hospitals and public health agencies in Boston and thus afford its students unusual opportunities for first-hand investigation and practical field experience.

In addition, the school, through cooperative relations with a number of manufacturing and commercial corporations, will be able to offer the students practical experience in industrial hygiene.

There already exists a School of Public Health conducted jointly by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor M. J. Rosenau, of the Harvard Medical School, is the director of this school, and the other members of the administrative board are Professor G. C. Whipple, of the Harvard Engineering School, and Professor C. E. Turner, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE British chemists who have been meeting at Montreal and Toronto will be welcomed at Niagara Falls by Governor Miller on Monday, September 5. The reception committee of chemists consists of Mr. S. R. Church, chairman of the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry; Dr. Edgar F. Smith, president of the American Chemical Society; Dr. David Wesson, president of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers; Dr. Acheson Smith, president of the Electrochemical Society; and Drs. Charles F. Chandler, Ira Remsen, M. T. Bogert and William H. Nichols, past presidents of the Society of Chemical Industry. As has already been noted in SCIENCE, the opening meeting of the American Chemical Society in New York City will be at

Columbia University at ten o'clock on the morning of September 7.

AT the recent second International Conference of Pure and Applied Chemistry held at Brussels, Professor Charles Moureau, of Paris, presided. The vice-president representing the United States was Dr. F. G. Cottrell, recently chief of the Bureau of Mines and chairman of the Division of Chemistry of the National Research Council.

GEORGE OTIS SMITH, director of the United States Geological Survey, has returned to Washington from London, where he went to serve as a member of the organization committee of the International Geological Congress, the next meeting of which is being arranged for August, 1922, at Brussels.

MR. C. J. WEST has left the position of director of the Information Department of Arthur D. Little, Inc., Cambridge, Mass., to become managing editor of the "Tables of Physical and Chemical Constants," which is being published by the National Research Council, in cooperation with the American Chemical Society.

MR. GEORGE A. OLSON has resigned as chemist of the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station and state chemist of the State of Washington, in order to accept the position as director of agricultural research and agricultural adviser for the Gypsum Industries Association, Chicago, Ill., which position was formerly held by Dr. William Crocker, who recently resigned to become the director of the Thompson Institute for Plant Research at Yonkers, N. Y.

FRANK C. MORRISON, assistant director of the agricultural experiment station of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed a member of the committee on Animal Nutrition of the National Research Council.

B. D. PORRITT has been appointed director of research by the Research Association of British Rubber and Tyre Manufacturers.

FOLLOWING the recent transfer of the Port Erin Biological Station to Liverpool University (department of oceanography), Mr. Herbert C. Chadwick, who has been curator under

the Liverpool Marine Biology Committee for the last twenty-four years, has resigned, but remains on the staff of the institution as research assistant. Mr. J. Ronald Bruce has been appointed naturalist-in-charge.

WE learn from *Nature* that at the annual general meeting of the Röntgen Society the following officers and council were elected: *President*, Professor J. W. Nicholson; *Vice-Presidents*, Dr. G. H. Rodman, Sir Ernest Rutherford, and Sir William Bragg; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. G. Pearce; *Hon. Secretaries*, Dr. E. A. Owen and Dr. J. R. Reynolds; *Hon. Editor*, Dr. G. W. C. Kaye; *Council*, C. Andrews, Dr. H. Black, A. E. Dean, Major Kenelm Edgecumbe, N. S. Finzi, Dr. F. L. Hopwood, Dr. F. H. Johnson, Dr. R. Morton, C. E. S. Phillips, Professor A. W. Porter, Professor A. O. Rankine, and Sir Archibald D. Reid.

THE following physicians have been elected members of the Brazilian Congress: Professors C. Fraga and P. Mendes, from Bahia, and Professors A. Sodré, A. Austregesilo and Dr. M. de Medeiros from Rio de Janeiro.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM H. HOBBS, of the University of Michigan, is now in Japan to make an investigation of the coral islands.

ACCORDING to *Terrestrial Magnetism*, the New Zealand Government has made arrangements for the continuation of the magnetic and seismic work of the Samoa Observatory at Apia. Dr. Angenheister, in charge from 1914 to 1921, has returned to Göttingen, Germany. The New Zealand government did not have available funds for the observational work in atmospheric electricity and meteorology. Accordingly, Dr. H. M. W. Edmonds, of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution, was stationed at Apia for the continuation, during the year, of the work and for the purpose of taking charge of the department's secular-variation work in the Pacific Ocean. He arrived at Apia the latter part of June. Mr. C. J. Westland, of New Zealand, succeeds Dr. Angenheister in the charge of the Observatory.

PROFESSOR FRANK H. BIGELOW retired from the directorship of the Observatorio Solar y

Magnético, Pilar, Argentina, on June 30, and will reside for the present in Southern France. He will prepare for publication a series of papers describing his researches on atmospheric physics.

GOVERNOR BAXTER, of Maine, has received an undated letter from Captain Donald B. MacMillan, the Arctic explorer, now on an expedition to Baffin Land, in which he writes: "I have taken on the last provisions and fresh water and am now awaiting weather to clear before proceeding northward to Hopedale, the first Eskimo settlement. The *Bowdoin* is proving to be a wonderful sea boat. Had her going the other day with sea rail under and fore rigging cutting every wave."

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that as Ramón y Cajal will soon retire as professor of histology in the School of Medicine of Madrid, Dr. Van Baubergen introduced a bill providing that Cajal should be appointed honorary dean of all Spanish medical schools, and that he should be granted an annual pension of 25,000 pesetas (about \$3,200). The minister of public education, while endorsing its first paragraph, held that the pension could not be granted, as it would violate the budget law. Cajal tried to stop subsequent action in favor of the pension, publishing a letter in which he said, "The legend of the poverty-stricken and neglected researcher has no application in my case." Cajal asked in his letter that, rather than granting him a pension he does not need, they should increase the funds for the Cajal School. The government accepted the suggestion and increased by 50,000 pesetas (about \$6,500) the annual appropriation for the school.

THE *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* states that the Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory, located at American University, Washington, has been transferred from the War Department to the Department of Agriculture. Dr. R. C. Tolman, director, will remain in charge, and the entire personnel of 110 to 120, including 50 of the best trained experts in the world on nitrogen, is transferred. Most of the work of the laboratory

has been done on the cyanamide process that is used in the Muscle Shoals plant, but the Haber and arc processes have also been studied. The laboratory will still consider nitrogen production from a military viewpoint, but it will do intensive work on problems of nitrogen supply for agricultural purposes. The laboratory and the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture have in the past year made extensive field tests on various fertilizers produced at the Alabama plants, and it is planned to continue and enlarge these tests. Dr. R. O. E. Davis, in charge of the soil physical investigation of the Bureau of Soils, has been cooperating in these tests.

THE American Astronomical Society held its annual meeting at the Van Vleck Observatory, Middletown, Conn., from August 30 to September 1. The following observatories, colleges and institutions were represented: United States Naval Observatory, Lick Observatory, Mt. Wilson Observatory, Allegheny Observatory, Dominion Observatory (Canada), Dudley Observatory, Harvard, Yale, University of Illinois, Ohio State, Princeton, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Swarthmore, Syracuse, Dartmouth, New York University, Brown, Amherst, Wesleyan, Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, Mount Holyoke, Eastman Kodak Company, Elgin Watch Company, Warner and Swasey Co., Alvan Clark Company and American Optical Company. The program for the meeting contained thirty-eight papers based upon observations with the spectroscope, seven papers dealt with stellar parallaxes or the distances of the stars and their distribution in space, and four papers were on the nebulae.

THE British expedition which is aiming at the conquest of Mount Everest in the Himalayas, the world's highest peak, has completed its explorations to the north and west of the mountain without discovering a practical route to the summit, it is announced in a Reuter dispatch from Simla. Some hope is still entertained, however, that a route may be gained on the northeast flank of the great mountain, and when the monsoon abates another effort will be made. Meanwhile the headquarters of

the expedition have been moved toward Kharta, upon which point the further effort will be based. The present expedition has surveyed about 10,000 square miles of territory on and adjacent to Mount Everest.

ACCORDING to the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, the first conference of the complete Pharmacopeial Committee of Revision was held July 1 and 2, 1921, at Philadelphia, Pa. The first day was devoted to subcommittee conferences, and at the close of the day all subcommittees reported their current problems settled or decided as far as possible. The following day was devoted to a meeting of the General Committee. A committee was appointed to take up the recommendation of the Pharmacopeial Convention that a conference on international standards be called before the completion of the Tenth Revision of the U. S. P. An announcement was made of the authorization by the Board of Trustees of the use of the U. S. P. IX. text for translation into Chinese. It is expected that this will be accepted by Chinese government officials and become the Pharmacopeia of China, First Edition. It was also announced that individual work on pharmacopeial problems could by special permission be released for publication. A conference was held with the Prohibition Commissioner in regard to the proposed co-operation between the department and the Committee of Revision on all questions in which pharmacopeial alcoholic preparations are involved.

A NEW forest experiment station, the first in eastern states, has been established at Asheville, N. C., by the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Steady depletion of the southern Appalachian timber supply has been responsible for the location of this station in the east; and the object of the work to be conducted will be to secure the information needed by foresters to determine the best methods of handling forest lands in the southern mountains.

THE provisional figures of births registered in England and Wales during the first quarter of 1921 show a decline of over 61,000 from

the record of the corresponding period of last year. Compared with the first quarter of 1914, however, the drop in numbers is under 8,000. Excluding the war years, the births are the fewest recorded in the first quarter of any year since 1872. The deaths registered also show a decline in numbers from the very low record of 1920, and are, indeed, the smallest in number registered in the first quarter of any year since 1868. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths was over 80,000, as compared with 133,000 in the March quarter of 1920 and 73,000 in 1914. The infant mortality was 101 per 1,000 births.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the Washington Academy of Sciences that the purchase of additional land near the Connecticut Avenue entrance to the National Zoological Park, provided for in the Sundry Civil Bill for 1921, has been completed. The addition to the Park is about six acres, making the total area about 175 acres.

WE learn from *Nature* that the governor-general of New Zealand, Lord Jellicoe, has formally opened the Cawthron Institute in Nelson, South Island. The institution was founded under the terms of the late Thomas Cawthron to provide a place for teaching and carrying out scientific research relating to the industries of Nelson and of the Dominion. Lord Jellicoe paid eloquent tribute to the great public generosity of the late Mr. Cawthron, and then spoke of the importance of scientific research. For an agricultural community to achieve success the agriculturists must cooperate with men of science. The work undertaken in the new institute will deal largely with problems of agriculture, fruit-growing, etc., and should therefore exert great influence on the prosperity of the whole of the Dominion. The Bishop of Nelson, who is chairman of the trustees, also addressed the gathering, and made particular mention of the library of scientific books belonging to the institute, which it was hoped, when completed, would be the best in Australasia. Professor Easterfield, director of the Cawthron Institute, gave a brief outline of the many lines of re-

search now occupying the attention of the staff; soil surveys, experiments with fertilizers and cover-crops, fire-blight, the deterioration of trout, fruit pests, and the utilization of flax-waste were among the problems mentioned.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society Dr. Knud Rasmussen explained the plans for his expedition to gather materials for an archeological and ethnographical survey. The expedition, which consists of Dr. Rasmussen, three other Danish scientific men and six Esquimaux, will leave the settlement of Holsteborg, in Greenland, for Hudson Bay at the end of August. The area to be explored is the central part of the archipelago, between Greenland and North America, comprising Ellesmereland, North Devon, North Somerset, Baffin Land, Borthia Felix, the Melville Peninsula and the Barren Grounds.

ACCORDING to the daily press, a trading expedition to Siberia *via* the Kara Sea is on the point of leaving Europe. Two cargo boats from Liverpool, two from Hamburg, and one from Göteborg are to meet at the Russian port of Murmansk, where they will be rejoined by the ice-breaker *Alexandria* from Leith. The expedition is carrying about 11,000 tons cargo, most of which is to enter Siberia *via* the Yenesei River. The expedition is being organized by the All-Russian Cooperative Society, Limited, London.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

MR. H. H. WILLS some time since presented the University of Bristol with the sum of 200,000*l.* for the provision of a new physics laboratory, and a contract for the erection of a building has now been signed. It is estimated that the work will absorb the whole of the original gift, together with interest on the fund, amounting to 21,000*l.* The building will be named "The Henry Herbert Wills Physical Laboratory."

THE board of curators of the state university of Missouri has taken a definite stand